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Copy No. 1

9 August 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: DCI Briefing of CIA Subcommittees of Senate Armed
Services and Senate Appropriations Committees -
6 August 1965 - 2 P. M.

1. The Director met with the combined Subcommittees of
Senate Armed Services and Senate Appropriations for approximately
two hours beginning at 2 o'clock. Present from the Subcommittees
were:

John Stennis	
Leverett Saltonstall	Carl Hayden
Milton R. Young	
William Darden, Professional Staff Member	

Accompanying the Director were:

Lawrence K. White	Executive Director-Comptroller
William Colby	Chief, Far East Division
John M. Clarke	Director/Budget, Program
	Analysis and Manpower
John S. Warner	Legislative Counsel

Prior to the hearing a technical sweep was conducted and there was
technical monitoring during the hearing. No transcript was taken.

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2. The Director briefed on the Soviet SAM sites in North Vietnam following the attached briefing material. In addition to the points made in the text, the Director pointed out that the field read-out of the photography covering the areas of sites 6 and 7 did not disclose these sites. It was not until they were processed through NPIC that the sites were found although the pilots had been briefed on the fact of radar associated with surface-to-air missiles in the general area. The Director stressed also that the equipment could be moved in and out of areas quickly on vans. All that is needed by way of site preparation is a flat area and that could be set up in six to seven hours. He pointed out also that it is known that the ChiComs have moved their SAMS around and that there are more sites in Communist China than equipment.

3. The Director then briefed on other developments in North Vietnam utilizing the prepared text. In response to a question from Senator Stennis as to why the other five SAM sites had not been attacked, the Director indicated this was a policy decision which would involve hitting what amounts to a sanctuary.

4. The Director briefly covered the role of Communist China in Vietnam. He pointed out that the ChiComs do have a railway transportation unit in North Vietnam to assist in transshipments from the different gauge tracks in China and North Vietnam. He stated that there was a cruise missile site on the Island of Hainan. In response to questions, the Director stated that he believed China would intervene (a) if Communist China were invaded or hit militarily, or (b) if there was complete collapse of the DRV. The Director stated that if Hanoi and Haiphong were to be destroyed, in all likelihood the DRV would collapse. The Director also commented that the Soviets are concerned about the actions of the ChiComs and certainly regard them as a long-range threat.

5. The Director briefed on the general South Vietnamese situation merely hitting the highlights of the attached briefing paper. He did cover in detail the military strength figures which appear at page A-16. In response to a question, he indicated that the desertion

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rate in South Vietnam had been reduced. The Director stated that Premier Ky had shown a greater stability than had been expected. In connection with his forthcoming trip, the Director stated that Ky was hoping for some sort of a coalition of the Southeast Asia countries which fear Communist China and Ky has indicated this would give a better umbrella under which the U. S. could operate. The Director speculated that the trip is solely for R&R. In response to a question the Director stated that probably Ky will stay in office for a while but very likely would not last indefinitely. The Director answered Senator Hayden stating that the liaison between the U. S. and South Vietnam is very good and is very close in headquarters and while varying in the field in some cases is better than in headquarters. In answer to a question from Senator Saltonstall, the Director stated the stories of cruelty and destruction by U. S. marines are greatly exaggerated. Senator Stennis asked about the Nationalist Chinese and the Director indicated that Mr. Cline had just visited the Gimo who indicates that this is the year of decision and is urging that he be permitted to unleash an invasion on the mainland. The Director pointed out that this would certainly bring the ChiComs into Vietnam. Senator Young inquired about Korean troops being sent to South Vietnam. The Director stated that the President would like to send one or possibly two divisions and it is believed the parliament will approve the sending of some troops. In response to a question from Senator Saltonstall, the Director pointed out that both of the recent incidents of sabotage at Da Nang and with the oil tanks were conducted through sectors not guarded by U. S. troops.

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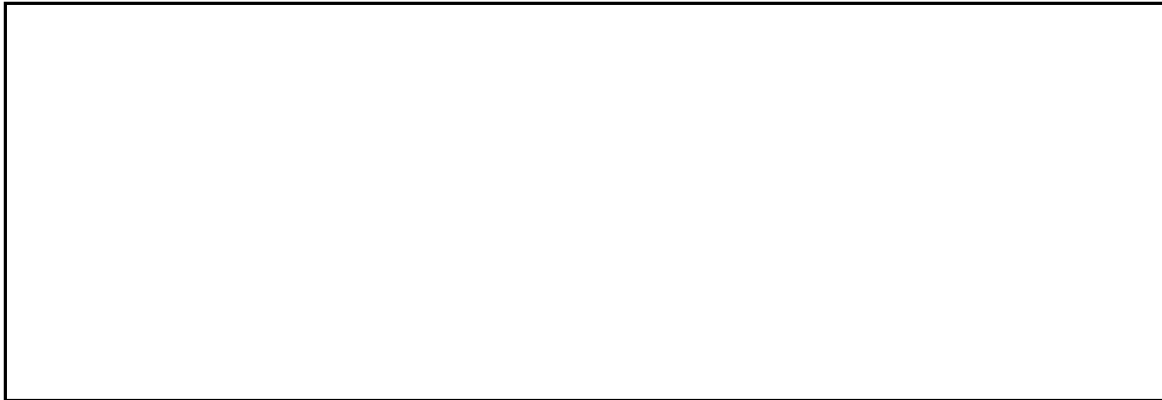
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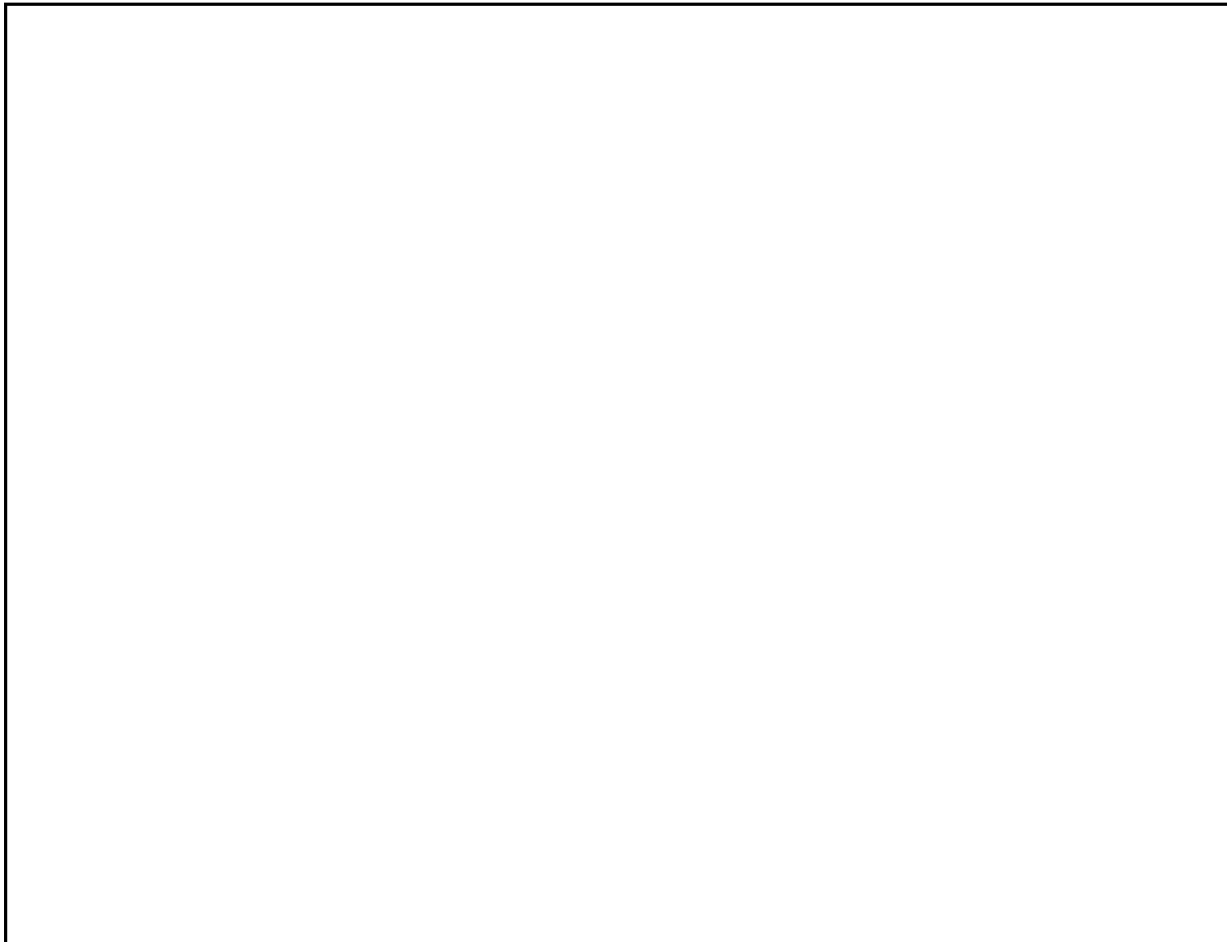
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7. Mr. Colby then briefed on the Agency program in Laos discussing in considerable detail the tribal effort. It was pointed out

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10. Senator Stennis particularly and the others seemed well impressed by this briefing and indicated that they in effect had had other discussions of the Agency budget. It may well be that this may have been our budget hearing on the fiscal 1966 budget. Mr. Darden, anticipating possible discussions by the members and Senator Russell, asked for our regular 1966 budget pamphlet and some detail on the supplemental which Mr. Clarke furnished to him.

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JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

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